HELL GIRL 地獄少女

6

Miyuki Eto

Original story by The Jigoku Shoujo Project

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Ballantine Books

DEL REY

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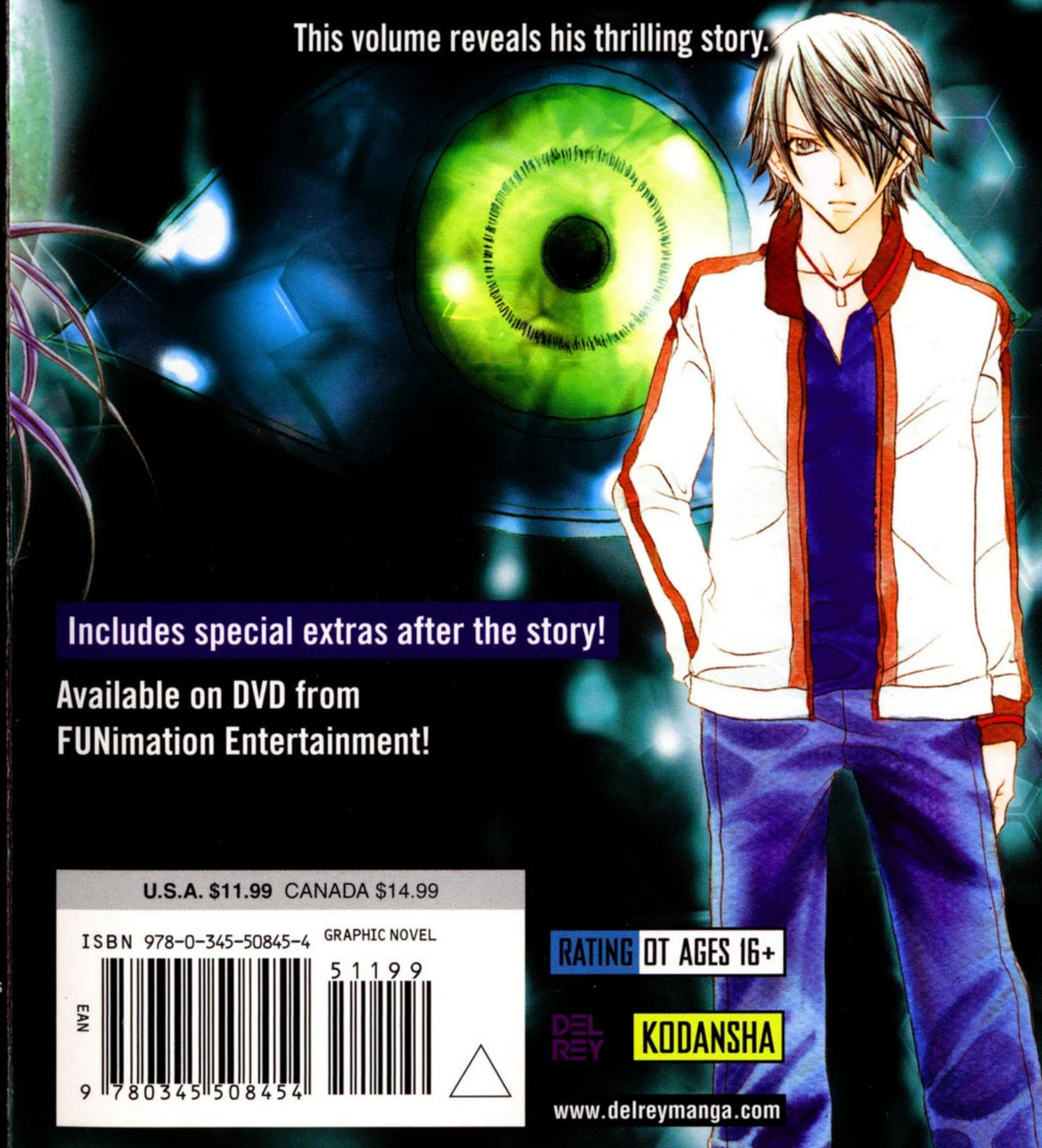

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Hell Girl

6

Miyuki Eto

Created by The Jigoku Shoujo Project

Translated and adapted by Gemma Collinge
Lettered by North Market Street Graphics

DEL REY
Ballantine Books · New York

Hell Girl volume 6 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/
Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

地獄少女

6

Hell Girl

Miyuki Eto

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Chapter Twenty-two: A Request for Hell

Take this.

Send to hell...

just one person?

Yes.

Just that person.

GRIP

If you untie the thread, then the contract will be complete.

The person you hate will be sent straight to hell.

It is now your decision.

You're pale. Are you feeling okay?

Sure. I'm fine.

I just stayed up late last night studying.

Oh, Asuka?

Finished already?

That was delicious.

TMD

The exams are coming up, so I have to study hard!

I should be telling you not to work so hard!

Morning!

Freak.

Morning!

CLATTER

Just stay home.

Freak.

No one wants you here.

Idiot.

Waste of space.

Die!

CRASH

PUSH

GIGGLE くすくす

Let's go.

TUG

Hey, hey!

Why did you give her a doll?

I'm too scared.

I can't do it.

I wanted to see what she would do.

GIGGLE GIGGLE

Gross.

It's a real mess.

GIGGLE

2-3

Everyone take your seats, please.

SLIDE

Huh? What's the matter, Uehara?

UMM.

Hurry up and sit down, then!

Uehara-san spilled her Milk!

We've cleaned it up for her.

SPLAT ベちゃ

Gross.

GIGGLE くすくす

Dis-gusting.

GIGGLE くすくす

This is our new transfer student, Katase.

I hope you'll make him feel welcome.

Hi, everyone!

One month earlier...

Why is this happening to me?

Nice to meet you.

Yes, sir!

You'll be sitting next to the class president.

He's behind in his classes. I want you to make sure he catches up.

Whoa.

Our class has gotten this far already?

But then, there's the sports festival.

We always put a lot of effort into it.

It's going to be tough.

The final exams are coming up soon.

There are lots of fun times ahead.

DING DING DING

It's already five. Don't you have cram school?

Huh?

Yeah.

But I study and work hard. I want to make my mom happy.

We don't have money for cram school.

My family is poor, see.

I don't have to rush off.

I don't go to cram school.

You study on your own?! You must be clever.

Whoa!

I'm not clever, really.

Hey, that guy!

That's the transfer student!

Wow.

I bet loads of girls liked you in your old school.

No! Not really!

He's so hot.

I wish I was in his class.

Before long...

Katase-kun was the most popular guy in our class.

Cheer up.

I heard Katase rejected Ichida.

Ichida is really cute.

He must like someone already.

Hah!

I know! It must be Uehara!

Hey, Uehara!

Does Katase like you?!

What? No!

Of course not!

She's blushing!

She likes him too!

That day...

Ichida and her friends started bullying me.

What's this?

Why not? Didn't I hear you say that you liked Katase?

Aren't you angry?

I don't think you should do that.

Ugly.

Idiot.

Very soon, everyone in class was bullying me.

I wouldn't talk to Uehara if I were you.

When girls gang up, they're pretty scary.

That's true.

Uehara-san isn't even cute.

She's clever, so she thinks she's great.

We have to make her look stupid in front of Katase.

Huh?

Uehara-san.

No.

YANK

Your hair must get in the way.

Let me tie it up for you.

TUG

OW!

Your very existence irritates me.

Then I could tie you up by the neck?

Hey, that was going a bit too far.

Ha ha ha!

No way.

There's no way...

Because I have this.

I'd kill myself.

Messing up work and blaming it on you. Spreading those lies.

They're just jealous that you're so good at your job. It makes me sick.

That's kind of you to say.

Mom has a friend over.

It really makes me mad.

I'm home!

But I'm not going to let them get to me.

I have Asuka.

Creating trouble, spreading lies, bullying...

This kind of thing happens to grownups too.

SPLASH

No matter where you are, the world is full of people like that.

We have to study for the tests.

Clean up for us.

You're so smart, you don't have to study.

ALL of us.

Neither Katase nor I...

You must love her!

The guys are going home too.

But we can't leave Uehara-san on her own.

You're standing up for Uehara now?

Ah...

...did anything wrong.

It'll be over soon.

Don't look so upset.

14 FLOP

Let's hide Uehara-san's uniform.

Where shall we put it?

2-3

It's sports next.

So she can't be bothered.

What's this?

She's cursing us?!

The straw doll!

Creepy!

Is this Uehara's?!

Get off me!

DASH

Give...

Give it back!

What's going on in here?!

Aaaaah!

THUD

What happened?! Are you okay?!

My head!

It hurts!

OW!

Get her to the nurse's room, quick!

Uehara-san hit her.

Uehara, come to the staff room, now!

We were only teasing her a little!

That's why I never told her I was being bullied.

I didn't want to upset my MOM.

I'M so sorry!

Faculty

Luckily, she's not injured.

But hitting another student, well...

And now, everything's even more messed up.

CLATTER

Can I go and wash my hands?

Teacher?

Right! If anyone finds out, then it'll look bad on our school reports.

I wonder if she'll tell what those kids have been doing.

We all just have to say that we didn't do anything.

2 - 3

It looks like they phoned Uehara's mother.

BANG

Ngh.

Come to think of it, won't this go on Uehara's record?

Ha ha ha!

Shame! She was getting such good grades too.

This could ruin my record.

I studied so hard. I worked so hard.

I just wanted to make my mom happy.

Ever since she got divorced from my dad...

...she's worked so hard for me.

I worked hard too.

TUG

"She's clever, so she thinks she's great."

"Blaming it on you. Spreading those lies."

All of them!

They're just jealous and mean!

I wish they'd all disappear.

But those people are everywhere. At school and work.

The whole class is my enemy.

Nothing's going to change if I send one of them to hell.

So...

Hell Correspondence

地獄通信

Asuka Uehara

Send

The only thing I have left to do is disappear.

Who'd have thought someone would put in her own name?

No way.

She wants to commit suicide.

Is this...

hell?

Your grudge...

...has been heard.

No one likes you.

Ugly.

Tee hee!

Freak!

Stupid.

Go die!

Hee hee!

SPLAT

Ah.

Aaaaaaaaah!

Hey.

TMD

Clean up for us.

Nothing's different than from how it was in school!

STRANGLE

ギリ

ギリ

Wh-why?

Just die.

Your very existence irritates me.

TUG

Aaah.

Did you think it would all be over if you came to hell?

That's what it means to be in hell.

Eternal suffering with no escape...

No.

GRIP

TUG

Die!

Die!

NOOO.

somebody...

CRUMBLE

CRUMBLE

AAAHHEU!

Help!

Help Me!

HUH?

SWING

NGH

THUD

I'M...

...not in...

...hell?

Katase-kun?

What?

Uehara!

Are you okay?!

Hell Correspondence is for avenging a grudge.

It's not for suicide.

I was bullied at my old school too.

All the time.

I was too scared to kill myself.

I thought that if I went to hell, everything would be over.

But...

I've always been small and weak.

No matter what they did, I couldn't retaliate. I stopped going to school in the end.

Huh?

You can't kill yourself.

"He's behind on his classes; I want you to make sure he catches up."

I thought that if I said something, they would bully me instead.

I thought things would be better in my next school.

But I saw the same thing happening. I was scared.

CLENCH

What?

But I didn't do anything...

You said "There are lots of fun times ahead."

It really is the same everywhere.

Uehara-san.

You were so kind to me, but I didn't help.

I've always hated school until now.

But...

I'm sorry that I couldn't help you until now.

I was so happy.

I was happy.

But...

People are mean and hurt each other.

Thank you.

I'm so glad you rescued me.

There will always be...

...hard times, even when I'm grown up.

Katase-kun...

Happy and wonderful things will still be there for me.

I simply have to wait. They're just ahead.

Did you remember the past?

Little monster! Go away!

I didn't do anything!

I'm not evil!

You!

That's why you got involved.

I knew it!

Hey, hey!

You can never shut up.

Ahhhh!

If you do ever have a grudge to avenge...

then you can access the site.

I'll send them to hell for you.

...you won't...

...be needing me anymore, right?

But...

Chapter Twenty-three: The Bright Dream

Greetings

Thanks for picking up volume 6 of *Hell Girl!* By October, it will have been serialized for almost a year. I can't believe it! Time has passed so quickly! I haven't really even noticed the change in seasons. So when I finish a manuscript and finally leave the house after many days have gone by, things look a bit like this:

It'll be the end of 2009 by the time this is published. I'll be working hard next year to bring more of this to you, so I hope you continue to enjoy it!

Miyuki Eto

Ai Enma

Gill Du Ronfu

42

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

GAME

...Mom!

Go to...

hell...

It's even worse than last time!

I'm sorry.

Midori!!

What's with this score?!

MOM, I HATE YOU!

But it's summer vacation!

What?

Midori Takahara

You better study properly this time!

I'm going to increase your cram school hours.

What am I going to do?

My grade average has slipped again.

I'm going to spend my whole vacation at school or home.

No matter how hard I try, I can't do it.

What am I going to do?

CRUMPLE

Mom's going to be mad again.

Midori Takashima

62

BRRRMMM

I wish I didn't have to go home.

Oh.

Mine's the next stop.

Let's go clothes shopping!

Okay!

しぶや
渋谷
Shibuya

I don't know how I ended up here.

This is Shibuya.

Shibuya.

This is my first time in Shibuya. What do I do?!

Ah!

There are some other middle-school girls!

I'm going to follow them!

My mom only buys me dull clothes.

This is so ama-zing!

Wow, cute!

This is super cute!

Do you want to try it on?

I think it would!

I've never worn pink! It wouldn't suit me.

Oh no, I couldn't!

You have such a great complexion. Pink will look really good on you.

Wow!

But not me!

All I'm allowed to do is study.

All the girls my age are getting nice clothes and having fun.

I'm sorry.

I can't afford this.

SIZE:36
PINK
¥5,000

Oh.

BEEEP

Huh?

GAME OVER

Oh.

I better get home already.

It's gotten really late.

Is he hitting on me?!

DASH

Wait a sec!

So...

Sorry, I gotta run!

HU-huh?!

Oi, oi!

Aren't you a cutie?!

You look like you're in Middle school, am I right?

Are you interested in working as a Model?

And anyway, my mom is really strict, and I have to study.

I... I couldn't be a model.

Me...?

A Model?

GRIP

Huh?

I'm too pretty to be studying?

DADUM

Pretty?

What are you talking about?!

You shouldn't be studying.

You're far too pretty to be locked away in a library.

Umm, then...

I will!!

Really?! That's great!

*Translator's Note: Approximately $300.

Oh my gosh!

I can't believe it!

You'll have to bring a registration fee of 30,000 yen* tomorrow.

This is our office. It's right next door.

Sure!

Yamamoto Model Agency
Director
Kenji Yamamoto

I'll be able to wear so many pretty clothes!

If I'm a model...

You were talent spotted?

I'll try my best!

Yeah!

They have an office in Shinjuku.

Huh?

You can't be a model, can you?

You are such a foolish girl.

And I won't have to study anymore.

If you don't study now, then you're not going to go anywhere in life!

I'M only thinking of what's best for you!

And your grades are getting worse.

What do you think you were doing... wandering around Shibuya until late?!

BANG

Ngh.

You have to study hard now!

TMP

I finally found something I wanted to do.

Why can't I have fun like everyone else?!

All you talk about is studying!

Please don't come looking for me.

Only doing what my mom says!

I can't stand it anymore.

I'm never going home again.

I got it.

Come in, then.

I promise I'll work really hard!

You left home?!

Wow!

I look so cute!

I've never worn anything like this before.

Here's the registration fee.

Contract

Sign this contract.

Well, let's get some photos taken. Would you put this on, please?

Sure!

Wow. I'm a professional model.

You look great!

Let's get a few shots.

Great! Beautiful!

FLASH

FLASH

FLASH

Brilliant.

Just lift your leg up a little more.

No!

FLASH

FLASH

Uh! Wait a minute!

FLASH

FLASH

Great!

Ahh.

THUD

FLASH

FLASH

Now show a little more cleavage.

UM...
UMM...

No...
I...

Come on, hurry up.

What is this?!

This isn't normal!

Please, stop!

Take proper pictures!

I am.

Pictures of little girls like you...

sell really well on the black market.

I'm going home.

What are you saying?

What is going on?

You can't go home now.

You signed a contract.

And then there's the registration fee.

I bet you stole it from your parents when you left home.

You think your parents are going to forgive such a stupid girl?

SLAP

Little brat!

No!!

No.

Let me go!

You better do as I say, or I'll sell you!

GRIP

Come here.

No.

Somebody, help!

CLICK

Here are your new Model friends.

Stop bawling.

Let me go.

No!

SLAM

Nobody is coming to help you.

BANG

BANG

Yes! A fire exit!

What am I going to do?

I have to get out.

I can't reach the window.

TMD

No.

It won't open.

HUFF

Help me!

Mom...

Someone, help me!

HM!

All these girls are around my age.

JINGLE

I made the decision that I was never going back home.

Using the same story about us being model material.

He must have tricked them like he did me.

It's unforgivable.

Someone... please... Help us.

Give it up.

Ack!

I have to find a way out of this myself!

You might as well get used to it.

What?

We're never going to leave here.

It's pointless

No one's coming

No.

Let me go home.

Shut up!

CLICK

It's photo time.

Oi.

I've been locked up in here...

...for two days already.

His cell phone!

SLAM

"

CLACK

"

NOOOO!

All of you have to do what I say!

Why?

Girls? Locked up?

It's just a prank.

Ha ha ha!

NEENAW

NEENAW

NEENAW

Now we can all get out of here!

We're being kept against our will!

Is that the police?!

Please help us!

BRRRMMM

Why are they leaving?!

Huh?

We got the call from here.

...I see.

Somebody...

There must be somebody who will help us!

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

Hell Correspondence

ENTER

I can't call her.

No.

Mom.

Hah.

Hell Girl.

If you untie the thread, then the contract will be complete.

The person you hate will be sent straight to hell.

Take this.

However... to curse someone is to dig a double grave.

TAP

TAP

After death, your soul will go down to hell too.

BANG

It was you...

Who reported me.

SLAP

Aaaah!

SLIDE

The straw doll...

GRAB

Aaah!

You shouldn't have done that.

SPUTTER

TIGHTEN

TEAR

I've been such an idiot.

TIGHTEN

...silly little runaways like you?

Fool.

Do you really think anyone cares about...

I want to go back to Mom.

I thought I could get away.

...because I was bored with studying.

I came here...

No.

I don't want to die here.

Your grudge...

...has been heard.

Hell Targets

Cotton Candy

What...

is this?

Welcome!

Three hundred yen for three shots.*

[*Approximately $3.]

FSSST

FSSST

!?

Waaaaah!

!?

That's hot!

SWISH

Quoits are one hundred yen.

SWOOSH

Just 200 yen for a balloon!

Come get them!

I hear you.

Don't be like that; you need to be more sinister.

Hey, you!

Pitiful shadow lost in the darkness...

Stop it!

BURNABLE TRASH

St- stop it!

...your hurtful actions to others...

have tainted your immortal soul.

Do you want to see what death looks like?

I'M SO SORRY.

But I've been such an idiot.

I'M SAFE.

I'M SORRY, MOM.

警視庁

Stop!

The general public is prohibited from...

My daughter!

My daughter might be inside!

There may be captives inside. Be careful.

Hey, you!

Midori!

BANG

GRAB

It's all my fault.

I should have listened to you.

Have you... been looking for me?

It was all my own doing, but still...

MOM.

I'm sorry.

Midori, I'm so sorry.

I didn't want you to have that pain later in life.

Ever since your father divorced me...

I've had to work and study so hard. It's not easy.

Of course I have!

I thought it was because I wanted you to succeed.

But really...

I just wanted you to be a good girl, so your dad would care for me again.

And I did this to her.

She's worked so hard for me.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry.

Mom, I'm really sorry.

It's nice that they made up.

If they had only spoken about it in the first place.

They could have avoided all this.

Sad isn't it?

Let's go.

But she had to pay the price.

A pretty big one, at that.

Chapter Twenty-four: The Winners in Love

Social Studies Class

Furuya-sensei!

I've liked you the whole time you've been here on teacher training.

Please go out with me!

Eeh?!

Thanks.

Sure.

Fumiya-sensei is in his fourth year of college? So he must be, what? Twenty-two?

It'll be tough dating an adult.

Yeah.

It's almost the end of his training, and you wouldn't have had a chance to see him again.

Good job, Chinami!

Actually dating him is like a dream!

Oh yeah, Furuya-sensei.

I hear he went to the same school as our Japanese class teacher, Orihara-sensei. He was her kohai.

I couldn't take my eyes off him.

He's nice to everyone, and he's so cool.

I'll be fine!

He's so kind!

Orihara-sensei is pretty, but she's so cold to everyone.

Surely it's just a rumor?

I heard that they used to date.

WHAT? NO WAY!

Please distribute these photocopies.

SMILE

Waaah!

DADUM ドキ DADUM ドキ

He's so cool.

Right then! Gather up the sheets, starting from the back.

RRRRIIIINNGG

But I can't do anything in gym that will let people know.

We said we were dating.

RRRIIINNGGG

DADUM

DADUM

He might not want to.

Maybe he's busy?

I know!

Do you want to meet up after school, if you're free?

Send me a message! ♥♥

OOO-XX-0120@n.

After school is fine. We don't want to get caught. So let's meet at XX Station in the neighboring town.

Waaah!

Eek!

YES! ♡ I have a date!

No way?!

KYAA

KYAA

KYAA

CLENCH

Furuya-sensei.

Great!

Makeup? Perfect!

Calm down, Orihara-sensei.

I'll never forgive you!

What are you doing with that girl?!

What?

Huh?

SNATCH

Ah.

Chinami-chan.

Orihara-sensei?!

TMD

Orihara-sensei was my sempai in college. We used to date.

Even though we broke up, she won't leave me alone. It's kind of scary.

UMM...

Yeah...

Did you see that?

DADUM

So the rumor was true.

But Furuya-sensei is so kind; I can't blame her.

PAT

She MUST still care for him...

She's so intense. I'M tired of it.

I much prefer sweet girls like you, Chinami-chan.

Furuya-sensei.

I'm not losing to an old woman!

I have to work har so he'll thi I'm cute

.....

Silence...?

BEEP

What was that about?

BEEP 14

Hello?

I have a date on Saturday. ♡

RRRIIIINNG

.....

Hello?

Break up with him.

RRRIIIING

What?

Orihara-sensei?!

Chinami-chan?

You seem a little distant. Is everything okay?

Ah... umm...

I was so nervous, I didn't sleep very well.

I got silent phone calls and nuisance messages all night.

Hm.

As if I'm going to let it spoil my date?!

Oh! Look at this! It's cute!

Waaah!

Shall we buy it?

Eh?!

Really?!

Sir, we'll take these pair rings.

I'm not going to lose to that old woman!

Show me!

Pair rings?

I'm so jealous! ♡

He won't love you.

When I graduate from Middle School...

we're getting married.

Eh! Really?!

I'M the one dating him, so why shouldn't I talk about it and be happy?

GRIP

キーン コーン

Furuya-kun.

We've been hearing stories that you're very close with one of the girls in Class 3?

Ah.

He's with some other teachers.

Jeez

I'M going to pretend I have a question so I can see him. ♡

She's only a middle school student. It would be a very serious problem.

You should be careful that people don't get the wrong idea.

Of course not. She's only a kid!

Ha ha!

Of course.

Furuya-sensei?!

Let me ask this...

You're not dating her are you?

Are they talking about me?!

Eeek!

Do you really think that?

"She's only a kid!"

Ngh.

Of course he can't tell them we're dating.

But why did he have to say it like that?

Sensei...

THUD

THUNK

Social Studies Class

She pushed you?!

AAAAAAHHHHHH!

I even got hurt.

Why won't he believe me?

Ah...

It could be only her!

I don't think Orihara-sensei would go that far.

I have been feeling she's very troubled recently.

She keeps ranting on about going to hell or something.

Hell Correspondence, I think it was! It's that urban legend that's getting around.

She said that she'd used it.

Hell?

DADUM

Ack.

I have to remove the one in my way!

If I don't, then I might be killed!

Then I have to do it too.

I don't think so...

I have to do it before it's done to me.

地獄通信

Hell Correspondence

Ai gave a straw doll to her too.

Tee hee.

I wonder who will pull the thread.

SLIP

I can't wait! ♡

What do I do?

When I die, I'll go to hell too.

I got my train card back!

Great!

I baked some cookies to thank him. He seemed really happy!

Furuya-sensei found it and brought it to my house.

He's so nice.

He said I should bake some more!

We're getting really close! ♡

Furuya-sensei is kind to everyone.

Social Studies Class

DADUM

She really wanted me to take them, so I did, but then I threw them away.

Homemade cookies?!

Ooooh, those. Of course I didn't eat them.

I can't blame Orihara-sensei or any other girl.

It's because he's so kind.

...something...

SLAM

Social Studies Class

But...

You...

Are you still hanging around Furuya-kun?

Orihara-sensei.

You're the one who won't leave him alone, even though you've broken up, right?!

Hah?!

You're the one who has been getting in the way of our relationship!

What are you talking about?

Furuya-kun has always been with me.

I got one yesterday too.

Z!

Look! He gave me this ring.

That's not the truth

Ah... well...

What is this?!

A misunderstanding?

I've ignored all his playing around up until now.

Furuya-kun borrowed money from me. And I even helped him get this job. I gave him everything.

Right! Sensei!

It's all so simple.

It will make Furuya-kun so happy.

SLIP

And this will be the end of it.

Orihara-sensei got a straw doll too!

GASP

No!

I have to pull the thread first.

Your grudge...

...has been heard.

Furuya...

...sen...
sei...?

The truth is...

...I have always known.

Why?!

"She really is in the way."

Lots of girls get the wrong idea and come on to him.

Furuya-kun wasn't kind.

He acts nice to everyone.

"I tried to break up with her, but she wouldn't listen."

"Could you ask the Hell Girl for me?"

"She's just not going to go away."

"I don't know what to do."

What... is this?

We were both wretched.

And I thought we could both go to hell together.

Ack!

About the Hell Correspondence site?

You...

You heard about it from Furuya-kun too?

I will die too.

And then I will finally be happy with Furuya-kun...

No.

You were going to send me to hell.

You don't have to now.

...in hell.

FLOP

"To curse someone is to dig a double grave."

TUG

TUG

BOOORING!

She didn't pull the thread.

...after death, your soul will go down to hell too.

In return for revenge...

Eh.

She wanted to go to hell, right?

She wanted to die, right?

That was lucky.

The grudge was avenged, without having to pull it.

Oh, I'M right.

No. You're wrong.

Die?!

HA HA HA HA!

You have to die to go to hell.

Just like Furuya-sensei.

He's only missing. He's gotta be somewhere.

They'll find Furuya-sensei soon.

3 - 3

Cheer up, Chinami.

Orihara-sensei suddenly quit?

Oh yeah. And did you hear...

...that Furuya-sensei is in hell.

I can't tell anyone...

No way!

Orihara-sensei took her early retirement, probably.

I wonder if it has anything to do with Furuya-sensei's disappearance?

She said that she was going to be very happy when she quit.

"...in hell."

"I will finally be happy with Furuya-kun..."

We'll be together now.

Happy forever...

Happiness in hell?

I really don't think so.

Explanation and Nonsense

Chapter 22 "A Request for Hell"

I tried something different for this story. It was something that I'd wanted to do for a while. Ai-chan often sees a lot of terrible things happening. Even though she wants to help them, she can't. I think that she would have felt very conflicted when she saw Uehara's and Katase's situations. I also felt quite conflicted throughout.

Ai-chan...:···

Chapter 23 "The Bright Dream"

Shibuya is pretty close to where I live, so I go there a lot. I like watching the people in their sexy clothes. I look a bit too much, perhaps. The other day, I bought some good walking shoes and took a nice long walk. I found lots of interesting places in Tokyo. I've started going as far as Azabu and Roppongi, now. I'm really impressed by the height of the buildings.

Chapter 24—The Winners in Love

Kikuri has quite a big role to play in this chapter. It was good to have her around because she has the innocence of a child, which allows her to say the things that adults wouldn't. I never dated a teacher in school, but there were quite a lot of interesting teachers in my lower-grade schools.

Chapter 25—Special Chapter: Ichimokuren

So far we've only seen Ichimokuren as an eye, so this was a surprise to me.
In this chapter, I really wanted to make Ichimokuren look cool! All three of Ai's assistants are kind, but they're not allowed to get caught up in their own feelings. It must be really hard sticking to that rule. I really want to explore the conflicting emotions that they endure in later chapters. It would be nice if we could see more of Ichimokuren too!

Chapter Twenty-five
Special Chapter: Ichimokuren

I got a letter asking to see Ichimokuren in glasses. I tried drawing a picture.

I actually like guys with beards, but I don't think I would be allowed to draw one on Ichimokuren. A shame.

Now come with me, Princess!

I have done all this to have you.

Come with me.

FSSST

...then I would rather be in hell!

If I'm to be your wife...

Don't be so rash!

Please! Live!

Do it! Kill Me!

Fine.

Why?

You must be looking for something?

Perhaps. Have you been able to find it?

People do the same things over and over again.

That depends on you.

What are you going to do now?

Well. It wasn't here.

GRIP

It's been centuries since then.

We've got work!

Ah...

To complete the contract, your soul will go to hell too.

But only after you are dead.

Ichimo-kuren!

I under-stand.

Thank you.

You should be able to use the insurance check!

I told you to return the money!

This is our client's house.

Right.

This is how I will take on Dad's enemies.

And there's the interest! You better pay up!

No.

I can introduce you to a good line of work, if you need it?

CHING

Come with me.

Uncle!

Again.

Ack.

Get away from Ayana!

You!

Your mother died so young.

It's been two months since your father died. A high school student shouldn't live alone. It's too dangerous.

Yes.

Are you okay?

Was it about the money again?

Come and live with your uncle.

GASP!

I'm sorry.

I can't leave the house where I've lived with my father.

I'll watch over this one.

All right.

I'll take care of your enemies.

There you are, Dad.

DOM

...when I die, then I'll go to hell.

QUIVER

But...

Aaaa

Her father borrowed a huge amount of money at work.

He couldn't manage the repayments, so he killed himself.

Apparently, the creditors want the money to return the debt.

He slit his wrists with a knife.

The only thing a blade can do is hurt people.

Same as before.

You want to stop her from pulling the thread, right? Because she'll go to hell.

Do you want to help her?

Leave it. I'm used to this.

A

B

Tee hee.

Why don't you take the straw doll from her?

I won't tell anyone.

Hey! Hey!

You're a *Tsukumogami*, right?

After hundreds of years, you became a spirit.

You used to be an object.

Huh?

I know.

You were a *katana*, right?

What were you? A pot? A kettle?

Huh?

Maybe a door hinge?

How should I know?

How many people did you kill?

I couldn't tell folks how they should use me. I could only watch.

Yes. I've seen the blood of so many people.

I don't remember how many times I changed hands.

I don't remember how many people I killed.

...I started feeling this way.

...one day...

But still...

A katana stained in blood.

And then?

Suddenly, I didn't want to repeat the same things over and over.

Before, I had only watched.

Is your heart still an object?

GAH!

This annoying little girl!

Waaah! Baldy!

Not really.

SQUEEZE

Did she say anything to you?

PYOING

If you want trouble, come here.

That girl...

Miss...

Should we really leave him?

We can't let our emotions take control.

And anyway—

This time, we'll do it.

Then, perhaps, he'll be able to end it.

HMM?

!

CLICK

There's a noise outside.

!!

EVERYONE!

THIS IS THE ROBBER!

The father of this house borrowed money, and then killed himself!

That house over there.

What?

WHISPER

The father of this house borrowed money, and then killed himself!

ACK!

WOBBLE

ガタ ガタ ガタ

SLAM

GIVE IT BACK, THIEF!

...kill yourself like your father did!

Stop it.

Stop it.

If you don't want to work...

STOP IT!

I just don't want to trouble him.

My uncle has always been kind to me.

Yeah. I guess.

I think you should go and live with your uncle.

It really is too dangerous to live on your own.

I see.

They said it was arson.

Terri-fying.

MUTTER

No way!

ROOOAAR!

NEENAW

NEENAW

Ayana-chan.

GRIP

Are those people still bothering you?!

Don't do this anymore.

Come and live with me.

Yes...

Someone phoned the fire department quickly, so it was only a small one.

I heard it was arson. Are you okay?

WHISPER

Please, Uncle.

Your father killed himself because of a debt, right?

DASH

BITE

Oh...

Ack.

This time, it was only a small fire.

But it could get worse.

It's terrible, really.

And now you're being harassed for the money.

No.

Stop!

BANG

Ayana?! What's the matter?!

BANG

Open up!

Even after My father's death...

I can't let this happen.

TUG

You can't pull it.

Huh!

Who is that?

Is someone watching me?

I see.

Everyone kept looking at me.

Park

So, I went to my uncle's.

Ha ha ha!

We caught loads!

Let's show them to Mom and Dad!

It would be so nice...

to have a family again.

But I lost all of them.

CLENCH

Ayana.

Have you heard of Hell Correspondence?

Hey.

I asked the Hell Girl. I wanted to send him to hell.

DADUM

I wonder...

Maybe it was Dad, telling me to stop.

I feel like someone is watching over me.

But now...

Your dad...

He would want you to be happy.

I think you're right.

I'm glad.

.....

Let's go.

Our work here is done.

She should forget all about pulling the thread.

Uncle.

I'll only stay for a while.

I'm so glad you came, Ayana-chan.

What are you saying?

Wherever you go.

Whatever you do.

GRAB

Huh?

You're going to live here forever and ever.

Forever.

SLIP

WHACK

NO!

No.

Forever.

Ayana?

Why aren't you listening?

GASP

Ever since you were little...

I've been good to you.

ｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｱｰ、

SWOOSH

How many people have I seen die?

I never want to see it again!

You can't rescue her.

Miss...

We can't let our emotions take control.

Uncle? You didn't...?!

It was because you wouldn't come with me...

It was because you wouldn't listen to me...

I had to set fire to your house!

Ayana...

I love you so much.

I pushed him to suicide.

Ayana. Use the insurance money to return the debt.

I made him borrow the money.

I had to, so I could have you.

Is that so?

I'll never forgive you!

Well, then.

You caused all of it?

Even Dad's suicide?!

Die.

Then you will be all mine.

"I have done all this to have you."

"Come with me."

I'M not going to let it happen again.

STOP IT!!

SPLATTER

Huh?

Who would have thought? A katana being stabbed...

Ha ha!

They apprehended him for borrowing the money.

I see.

I hope that she will get her revenge...

...someday.

Anyway, what about your injury? Are you okay?

Yeah.

Ayana, are you all right?

You really worried us.

Yeah.

NEENAW

NEENAW

ビーポ

She's lost her family.

But she has friends who will look after her.

Things will be okay now.

The man who saved me disappeared.

I wanted to thank him.

You must be looking for something?

Having friends is a good thing.

You're more like...

family.

How can you say that?!

It's sad being all alone.

It stings, right here.

Humph!

Sorry.

I don't think of you people as my friends.

Who knows?

You know.

What's he talking about?

?

Huh?

I definitely...

don't hurt as MUCH as I used to.

...I've found it now.

Perhaps...

The thing I was looking for?

Continued in volume 7

A much-desired battle between Wanyuudou and Ichimokuren.

FSSST

YOU!

Wait! Ichimo-kuren!

I don't know if he did it on purpose.

He's not stopping?!

BLINK

Uh huh.

Stop that idiot!

DAZZLE

Ugh.

Don't get in the way!

BAN

I'M looking straight at you.

Roll it on to Me, then!

DON

Why did he go?

Ha

ha!

Ahh!

Bring it on!

I'd like it if they stopped.

What's up with this Manga?!

Ichimokuren Special

Do something!

Hmm.

I can't come with you like this!

Don't leave me half out!

Yes, it's not here.

Will you come with us?

Yes, Miss.

Wanyuuaou?

Right then...

TUG

STRAIN

!!

He's naked.

NO!

Let's go.

EH?!

No one wants to see that.

We don't want to draw that, so we'll leave him there.

Hell Girl

Special
LATE GIRL

SNOOZE スヌーズ

Spring always makes me... sleepy.

As Always, Late Girl

The next day:

Late.

Late.

I work every night, so I'm always tired. I just can't get out of bed.

ZZZZZZ

Late!

And the next day:

DASH

I have people to send to hell!

I over-slept again!

...amazing!

That's kind of...

Huh?

But I don't have time to fix it.

Wait! You have bed-head!

You need to look more like a Hell Girl.

Hates Work?

She was working all last night too.

She's probably late.

Where is Miss?

Sleepy Head?

Miss, hurry!

This client needs a straw doll.

Late.

TMD

TMD

Huh.

Some-one's here.

PANT はぜー

SWISH スッ…

Take this.

Huh?!

Cherry Blossom Picnic!

Miss?!

Norimake

She's not late when it comes to relaxation time.

Well...

Why are you carrying it around?!

My mistake.

Ah. UMM...

I'm going to see the cherry blossoms tomorrow.

Volume 6—with a special bonus story,
starring Ichimokuren!

Did you like it?

In volume 7, we're going to find out more about Hone Onna's past.

Hone Onna is a sexy character, so I'm really looking forward to drawing her.

I think the bonus pages are pretty fun, too.

A big thank you to:
The people at Aniplex!
Isomura!
Everyone involved!
Everyone who bought the books!

About the Creator

Miyuki Eto

Birth date: July 3
Astrological sign: Cancer
Blood type: A

Born in Hiroshima prefecture, Miyuki Eto made her manga debut in *Nakayoshi* magazine's "Summer Vacationland" special issue with the story "Lila's Flower Language." That story won her the 25th Annual *Nakayoshi* New Manga Artist Award. Her featured work is *Hell Girl*, currently serialized in six volumes.

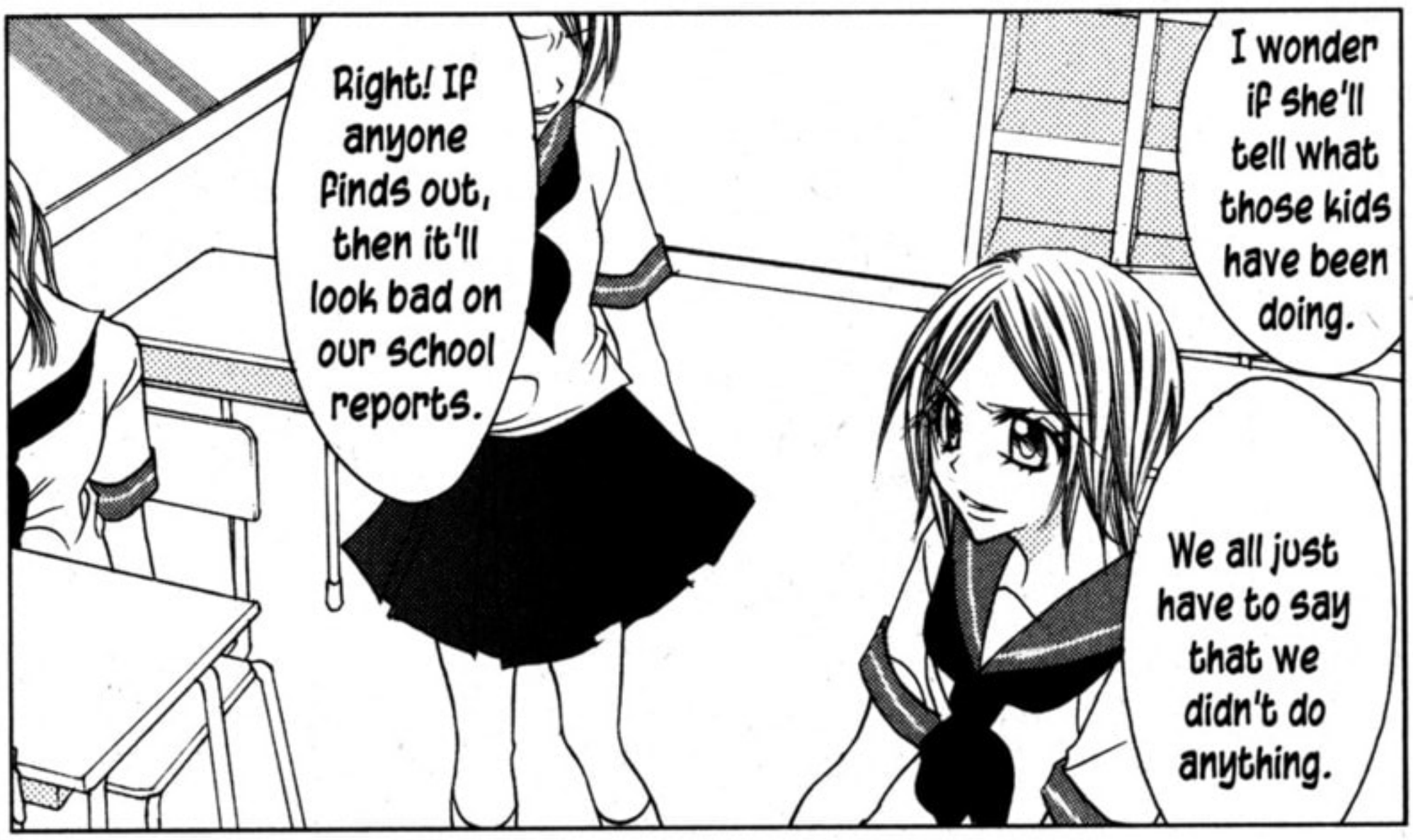
"Recently, I like going to art museums and the basements of department stores. The tension is really high in both."

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Cram School, page 13

It is not uncommon for Japanese students to attend cram school after regular classes. These are private schools that sometimes charge quite high fees. However, they are often considered very important if a student wants to properly prepare and succeed in the highly competitive examination system.

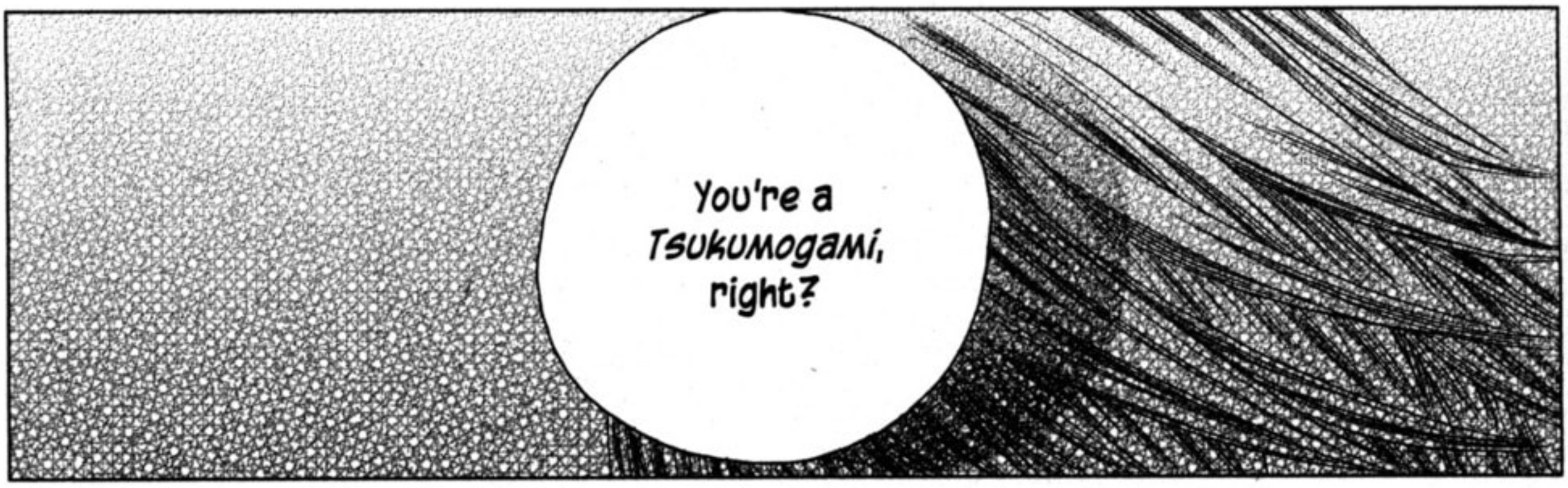

Right! If anyone finds out, then it'll look bad on our school reports.
I wonder if she'll tell what those kids have been doing.
We all just have to say that we didn't do anything.

School Reports, page 24

Having a clean school report is vital for a Japanese student if he or she is aiming to get into a good university. If these girls were known to be bullies, then it could have serious repercussions on their chances for academic success.

Shibuya, page 44
The area around Shibuya Station is one of the fashion centers of Japan (and, increasingly, around the world). It's a very popular hangout for Japanese youths and has a great nightlife. It is also well known for its crime problems, especially organized crime.

Pair Rings, page 90
These are very popular among young Japanese couples. They are the same (or very similar-looking) rings, sold as a pair. They are often bought by the guy as a romantic gesture, and of course any teenage girl would love to receive one! Shopping in a jewelry store in Japan always offers a wide selection, sometimes with amusing English notes to accompany them.



***Tsukumogami*, page 132**

Tsukomogami are a type of traditional Japanese spirit. This particular one is an artifact that has reached its hundredth year and thus becomes aware of its existence. *Tsukomogami* can come in all forms, from weapons to ordinary household objects.

***Katana*, page 133**

A Japanese sword. It was a very popular weapon in medieval Japan and can come in all shapes and sizes.

Chapter Twenty-five
Special Chapter: Ichimokuren

I got a letter asking to see Ichimokuren in glasses. I tried drawing a picture.

I actually like guys with beards, but I don't think I would be allowed to draw one on Ichimokuren. A shame.

Now come with me, Princess!

I have done all this to have you.

Come with me.

FSSST

...then I would rather be in hell!

If I'm to be your wife...

Don't be so rash!

Please! Live!

Do it! Kill Me!

Fine.

Why?

You must be looking for something?

People do the same things over and over again.

Perhaps. Have you been able to find it?

That depends on you.

What are you going to do now?

Well. It wasn't here.

GRIP

It's been centuries since then.

We've got work!

Ah...

To complete the contract, your soul will go to hell too.

But only after you are dead.

Ichimo-kuren!

I under-stand.

Thank you.

You should be able to use the insurance check!

I told you to return the money!

This is our client's house.

Right.

This is how I will take on Dad's enemies.

And there's the interest! You better pay up!

No.

I can introduce you to a good line of work, if you need it?

CHING

Come with me.

Again.

Uncle!

Ack.

Get away from Ayana!

You!

Your mother died so young.

It's been two months since your father died. A high school student shouldn't live alone. It's too dangerous.

Yes.

Are you okay?

Was it about the money again?

Come and live with your uncle.

GASP!

I'm sorry.

I can't leave the house where I've lived with my father.

I'll watch over this one.

All right.

I'll take care of your enemies.

There you are, Dad.

DOM

QUIVER

But...

...when I die, then I'll go to hell.

Aaaa

Her father borrowed a huge amount of money at work.

He couldn't manage the repayments, so he killed himself.

A man's life the size of money a debt.

He slit his wrists with a knife.

The only thing a blade can do is hurt people.

Same as before.

Do you want to help her?

You want to stop her from pulling the thread, right? Because she'll go to hell.

Why don't you take the straw doll from her?

I won't tell anyone.

Hey! Hey!

Leave it. I'm used to this.

Tee hee.

You're a *Tsukumogami*, right?

You used to be an object.

After hundreds of years, you became a spirit.

Huh?

I know.

You were a *katana*, right?

What were you? A pot? A kettle?

Huh?

Maybe a door hinge?

How should I know?

How many people did you kill?

I couldn't tell folks how they should use me. I could only watch.

Yes. I've seen the blood of so many people.

I don't remember how many times I changed hands.

I don't remember how many people I killed.

...I started feeling this way.

...one day...

But still...

A katana stained in blood.

And then?

Suddenly, I didn't want to repeat the same things over and over.

Before, I had only watched.

Is your heart still an object?

GAH!

This annoying little girl!

Waaah! Baldy!

Not really.

SQUEEZE

Did she say anything to you?

PYOING

If you want trouble, come here.

That girl...

Miss...

Should we really leave him?

We can't let our emotions take control.

And anyway—

This time, we'll do it.

Then, perhaps, he'll be able to end it.

HMM?

!

CLICK

There's a noise outside.

!!

EVERYONE!

THIS IS THE ROBBER!

The father of this house borrowed money, and then killed himself!

That house over there.

What?

WHISPER

The father of this house borrowed money, and then killed himself!

ACK!

WOBBLE

ガタ ガタ

SLAM

GIVE IT BACK, THIEF!

...kill yourself like your father did!

Stop it.

Stop it.

If you don't want to work...

STOP IT!

I just don't want to trouble him.

My uncle has always been kind to me.

Yeah. I guess.

I think you should go and live with your uncle.

It really is too dangerous to live on your own.

I see.

They said it was arson.

Terri-fying.

MUTTER

MUTTER

No way!

ROOOAAR!

NEENAW

NEENAW

Ayana-chan.

GRIP

Are those people still bothering you?!

Don't do this anymore.

Come and live with me.

Yes...

Someone phoned the fire department quickly, so it was only a small one.

I heard it was arson. Are you okay?

WHISPER

Please, Uncle.

Your father killed himself because of a debt, right?

DASH

BITE

Oh...

Ack.

This time, it was only a small fire.

But it could get worse.

It's terrible, really.

And now you're being harassed for the money.

No.

Stop!

BANG

Ayana?! What's the matter?!

BANG

Open up!

Even after My father's death...

I can't let this happen.

TUG

You can't pull it.

Huh!

Who is that?

Is someone watching me?

I see.

Everyone kept looking at me.

So, I went to my uncle's.

park

Ha ha ha!

We caught loads!

Let's show them to Mom and Dad!

It would be so nice...

to have a family again.

Ayana.

#11 CLENCH

But I lost all of them.

Have you heard of Hell Correspondence?

Hey.

I asked the Hell Girl. I wanted to send him to hell.

DADUM

I wonder...

Maybe it was Dad, telling me to stop.

I feel like someone is watching over me.

But now...

Your dad...

He would want you to be happy.

I think you're right.

I'm glad.

.....

Let's go.

Our work here is done.

She should forget all about pulling the thread.

Uncle.

I'll only stay for a while.

I'm so glad you came, Ayana-chan.

What are you saying?

Wherever you go.

Whatever you do.

SLIP

GRAB

Huh?

You're going to live here forever and ever.

Forever.

WHACK

NO!

No.

Forever.

Ayana?

Why aren't you listening?

GASP

Ever since you were little...

I've been good to you.

ヤヤヤヤヤヤヨヨヨヨヨー、

SWOOSH

How many people have I seen die?

I never want to see it again!

You can't rescue her.

Miss...

We can't let our emotions take control.

Uncle? You didn't...?!

It was because you wouldn't come with me...

It was because you wouldn't listen to me...

I had to set fire to your house!

Ayana...

I love you so much.

I had to, so I could have you.

I made him borrow the money.

Ayana: Use the insurance money to return the debt.

I pushed him to suicide.

You caused all of it?

Even Dad's suicide?!

Is that so?

I'll never forgive you!

Well, then.

Die.

Then you will be all mine.

"Come with me."

"I have done all this to have you."

I'M not going to let it happen again.

STOP IT!!

SPLATTER

Huh?

Who would have thought? A katana being stabbed...

Ha ha!

They apprehended him for borrowing the money.

I see.

I hope that she will get her revenge...

...someday.

Ayana, are you all right?

Yeah.

Anyway, what about your injury? Are you okay?

You really worried us.

Yeah.

NEENAW

NEENAW

ビーポ

She's lost her family.

But she has friends who will look after her.

Things will be okay now.

The man who saved me disappeared.

I wanted to thank him.

You must be looking for something?

Having friends is a good thing.

You're more like...

Family.

How can you say that?!

Humph!

It's sad being all alone.

It stings, right here.

Sorry.

I don't think of you people as my friends.

What's he talking about?

Who knows?

You know.

Huh?

I definitely...

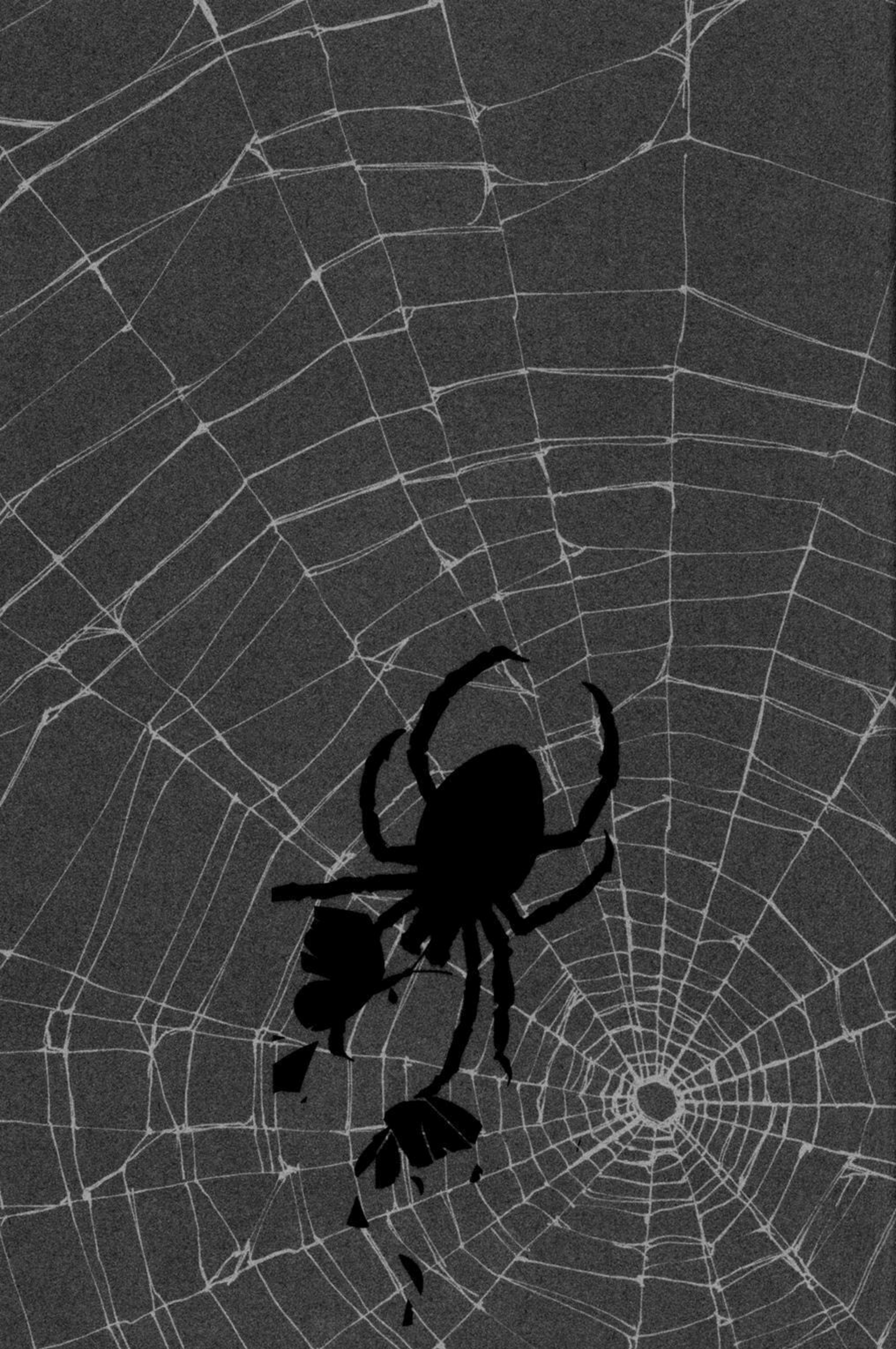
don't hurt as MUCH as I used to.

...I've found it now.

Perhaps...

The thing I was looking for?

Continued in volume 7



A much-desired battle between Wanyuudou and Ichimokuren.

FSSST

YOU!

Wait! Ichimo-kuren!

I don't know if he did it on purpose.

He's not stopping?!

BLINK

Uh huh.

Stop that idiot!

DAZZLE

Ugh.

Don't get in the way!

BAN

I'M looking straight at you.

DON

Roll it on to Me, then!

Why did he go?

Ha

ha!

Ahh!

Bring it on!

I'd like it if they stopped.

What's up with this manga?!

Ichimokuren Special

Do something!

Hmm.

I can't come with you like this!

Don't leave me half out!

Yes, it's not here.

Will you come with us?

Yes, Miss.

Wanyuuuuu?

Right then...

TUG

STRAIN

!!

He's naked.

NO!

Let's go.

No one wants to see that.

EH?!

We don't want to draw that, so we'll leave him there.

Hell Girl

Special
LATE GIRL

SNOOZE

Spring always makes me... sleepy.

As Always, Late Girl

The next day:

Late.

Late.

I work every night, so I'm always tired. I just can't get out of bed.

ZZZZZZ

Late!

And the next day:

DASH!

I have people to send to hell!

I over-slept again!

...amazing!

That's kind of...

Huh?

But I don't have time to fix it.

Wait! You have bed-head!

You need to look more like a Hell Girl.

Hates Work?

She was working all last night too.

She's probably late.

Where is Miss?

Sleepy Head?

Miss, hurry!

This client needs a straw doll.

Late.

TMD

TMD

Huh.

Some-one's here.

PANT はぜー

SWISH スッ

Take this.

Huh?!

Cherry Blossom Picnic!

Miss?!

Norimake

She's not late when it comes to relaxation time.

Well...

Why are you carrying it around?!

My mistake.

Ah. Umm...

I'm going to see the cherry blossoms tomorrow.

Volume 6—with a special bonus story, starring Ichimokuren!

Did you like it?

In volume 7, we're going to find out more about Hone Onna's past.

Hone Onna is a sexy character, so I'm really looking forward to drawing her.

I think the bonus pages are pretty fun, too.

A big thank you to:
The people at Aniplex!
Isomura!
Everyone involved!
Everyone who bought the books!

About the Creator

Miyuki Eto

Birth date: July 3
Astrological sign: Cancer
Blood type: A

Born in Hiroshima prefecture, Miyuki Eto made her manga debut in *Nakayoshi* magazine's "Summer Vacationland" special issue with the story "Lila's Flower Language." That story won her the 25th Annual *Nakayoshi* New Manga Artist Award. Her featured work is *Hell Girl*, currently serialized in six volumes.

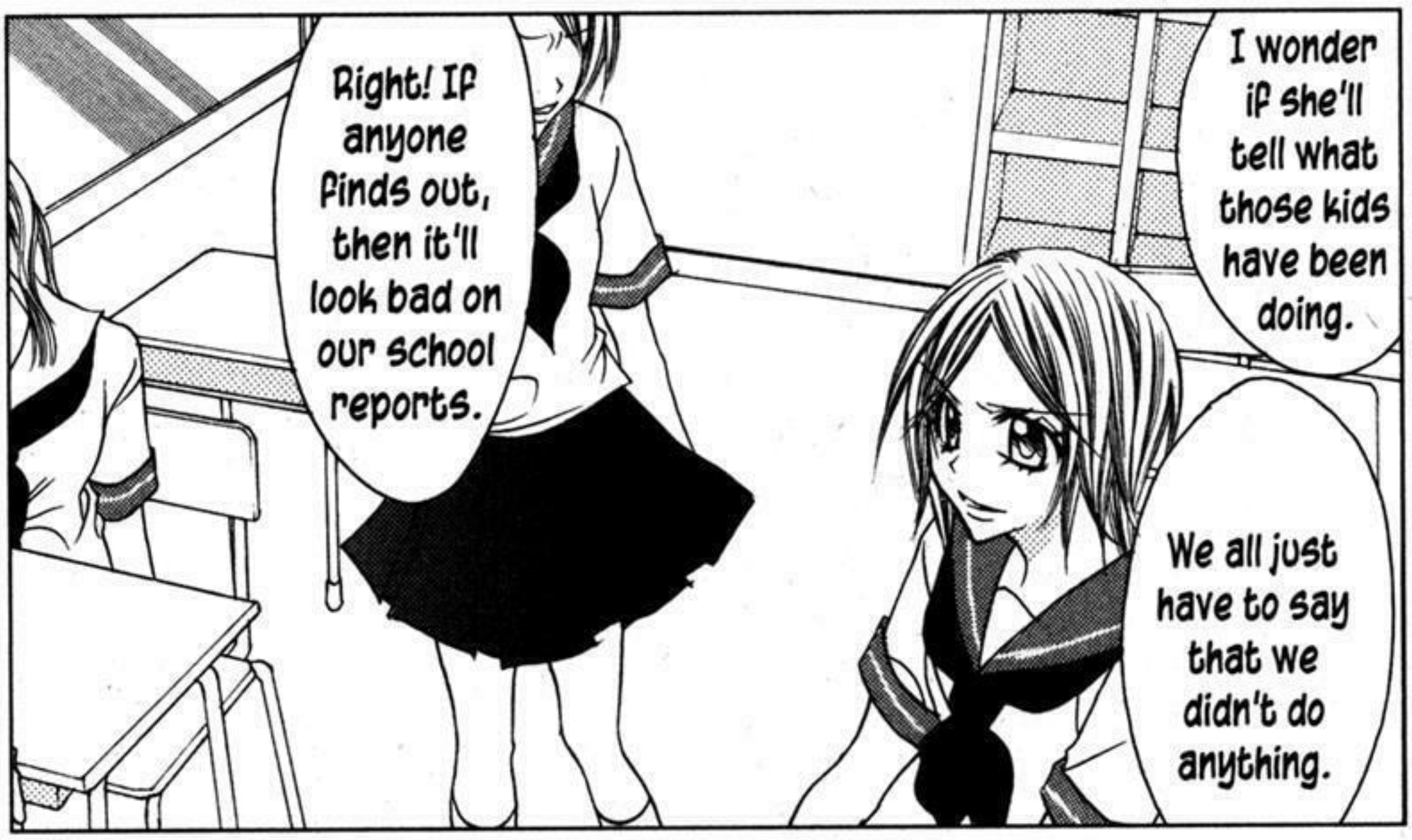
"Recently, I like going to art museums and the basements of department stores. The tension is really high in both."

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Cram School, page 13

It is not uncommon for Japanese students to attend cram school after regular classes. These are private schools that sometimes charge quite high fees. However, they are often considered very important if a student wants to properly prepare and succeed in the highly competitive examination system.

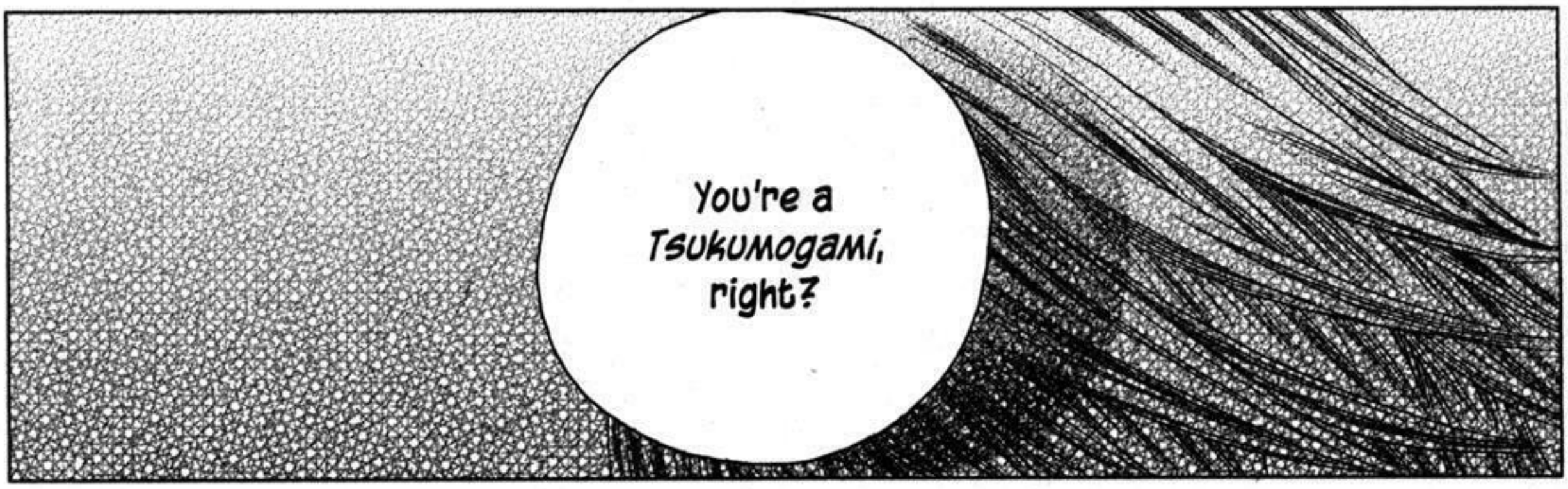

Right! If anyone finds out, then it'll look bad on our school reports.
I wonder if she'll tell what those kids have been doing.
We all just have to say that we didn't do anything.

School Reports, page 24

Having a clean school report is vital for a Japanese student if he or she is aiming to get into a good university. If these girls were known to be bullies, then it could have serious repercussions on their chances for academic success.

Shibuya, page 44
The area around Shibuya Station is one of the fashion centers of Japan (and, increasingly, around the world). It's a very popular hangout for Japanese youths and has a great nightlife. It is also well known for its crime problems, especially organized crime.

Pair Rings, page 90
These are very popular among young Japanese couples. They are the same (or very similar-looking) rings, sold as a pair. They are often bought by the guy as a romantic gesture, and of course any teenage girl would love to receive one! Shopping in a jewelry store in Japan always offers a wide selection, sometimes with amusing English notes to accompany them.



***Tsukumogami*, page 132**

Tsukomogami are a type of traditional Japanese spirit. This particular one is an artifact that has reached its hundredth year and thus becomes aware of its existence. *Tsukomogami* can come in all forms, from weapons to ordinary household objects.

***Katana*, page 133**

A Japanese sword. It was a very popular weapon in medieval Japan and can come in all shapes and sizes.